

REMARKS

Applicants have introduced an Abstract based upon the Abstract published on the face of the PCT application. Applicants have added the priority data to the first page of the patent application.

Regarding the claims, Applicants have amended Claims 1-56 to better conform with U.S. patent practice by removing exemplary language, eliminating multiple dependencies, improving the form of the claims, and removing use claims.

Applicants have also added new Claims 57-61. These claims are based on at least original claims 1, 2, 3, and 9.

It is believed that by entry of these amendments no prohibited new matter will be introduced. All the amendments to the claims have been made without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter cancelled by way of this amendment. Applicants reserve the right to pursue subject matter canceled by way of this amendment in this application or in a divisional or a continuation application.

The entry of the present Preliminary Amendment respectfully is requested.

10/500-118

DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 JUN 2004

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order. Such action is earnestly solicited. In the event that there are any questions relating to this application, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

In the event any further fees are due to maintain pendency of this application, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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